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EXAMINATION PAPERS (ADVANCED LEVEL)

FRENCH

ADVANCED LEVEL

PAPER 3 (PRESCRIBED TEXTS, ETC.)

(Three hours)

Candidates will be required to answer four questions, one on each of four books, which may be taken from any part of the paper provided that not more than three are taken from Section B. Answers may be written in English or in French but there will be no preference for either language in the marking.

Section A

1 RACINE, Andromaque

Either (a) Show how Andromaque attempts to influence Hermione in this passage. How does the language she uses help us to understand her state of mind? In what ways is this scene dramatic?

ANDROMAQUE

Où fuyez-vous, madame?
N'est-ce pas à vos yeux un spectacle assez doux
Que la veuve d'Hector pleurante à vos genoux?
Je ne vois point ici, par de jalouses larmes,
Vous envier un cœur qui se rend à vos charmes.
Par une main cruelle, hélas! j'ai vu percer
Le seuil où mes regards prétendaient s'adresser:
Ma flamme par Hector fut jadis allumée;
Avec lui dans la tombe elle s'est enfermée.

(b) Show how the language conveys Andromaque's state of mind.

10 Mais il me reste un fil. Vous savez quelque jour,
Madame, pour un fils jusqu'où va notre amour;
Mais vous ne savez pas, du moins je le souhaite,
En quel trouble mortel son intérêt nous jointe,
Lorsque de tant de biens que nous faisons,
C'est le seul qui nous reste, et qu'on veut nous l'ôter.
Hélas! lorsque, lasse de dix ans de misères,
Les Troyens en couleurs menaçaient votre mère,
J'ai su de mon Hector lui procurer l'appui:
Vous pouvez sur Pyrrhus ce que j'ai pu sur lui.

Or (b) "Who killed Pyrrhus? The four main characters are all responsible for this death." What is your view?

2 MOLIÈRE, L'Avare

Either (a) To what extent does the following passage refer? What is the importance of this speech? What comedy do you find in this?

Et moi, pour vous répondre, j'ai à vous dire que les choses sont si égales; et que si vous arrivez de la réputation à me voir vous faire bien-mère, je n'en sus pas moins sans doute à vous voir bien-fils. Ne croyez pas, je vous prie, que ce soit moi qui cherche à vous donner cette iniquité. Je serais fort fière de vous causer du déplaisir; et si je ne m'y vois forcée par une puissance absolue, je vous donne ma parole que je ne consentirai point au mariage qui vous chagrine.

Or (b) To what extent is Adolphe a criticism of what Constant calls an artificial society?
5 **Zola, Contes choisis**

**Either (a)** Do you think the following passage makes a good beginning to the story? Comment on any themes or stylistic features which seem to you characteristic of the *Contes choisis*.

C'est un samedi, à six heures du matin, que je suis mort après trois jours de maladie. Ma pauvre femme fouillait depuis un instant dans la malle, où elle cherchait du linge. Lorsqu'elle s'est relevée et qu'elle m'a vu rigoler, les yeux ouverts, sans un souffle, elle est accourue, croyant à un évanouissement, me touchant les mains, se penchant sur mon visage. Puis, la terreur l'a prise; et, affolée, elle a bégayé, en éclatant en larmes:

— Mon Dieu! mon Dieu! il est mort!

J'entendais tout, mais les sons affectés semblaient venir de très loin. Seul, mon œil gauche percevait encore une lueur confuse, une lumière blanchâtre où les objets se fondaient; l'œil droit se trouvait complètement paralysé. C'était une syncope de mon être entier, comme un coup de foudre qui m'avait endorti. Ma volonté était morte, plus une fibre de ma chair ne m'obéissait. Et, dans ce néant, au-dessus de mes membres inertes, la pensée seule demeurait, lente et paresseuse, mais d'une netteté parfaite.

**Or (b)** "Toujours menacée, la Vie, qui est bonne, ne pèchera point." How important is this theme in Zola's work?

6 **Sartre, Les Mains sales**

**Either (a)** In what ways does the following passage help us to understand Hugo's state of mind at this point and earlier in the play?

HUGO Si tout était une comédie!

**Or (b)** Tension is maintained at an almost melodramatic level." In what ways is this tension produced in Les Mains sales?

10 **Anouilh, Antigone**

**Either (a)** " Créon seems to me to be the only true tragic hero." What is meant by this comment? How far do you agree with it?

**Or (b)** What is the function of the Prologue and the Chorus?

11 **Ionesco, Trois Pièces**

**Either (a)** "The subject of the play (Les Chaises) was nothingness... it was total absence." What does Ionesco mean by this? What dramatic qualities do you see in a play where "nothingness" is the theme?

**Or (b)** "Quelle est la morale? — C'est à vous de la trouver." Comment on the "morale" of all or any of Ionesco's plays in the Light of this remark.

15 **Duras, Moderato cantabile**

**Either (a)** "Morte, dit-elle, en souriant de joie." Discuss the ways in which passion and death are linked in this novel.

**Or (b)** What impression of bourgeois society is suggested in this novel, and by what means does the author convey this impression?

15 **Duras, Moderato cantabile**

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EXAMINATION PAPERS (ADVANCED LEVEL)

15 GISCARD D'ESTAING, Démocratie française

Ces systèmes ne sont pas dépourvus d'efficacité, mais ils conviennent à des âges civilisés. 

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Answer part (a) and either (b) or (c)

(a) (i) What "systèmes" (I. 1) is Giscard referring to here?

(ii) What is meant by: "le ressort" (I. 2); "la voie de l'unison" (I. 15)?

(iii) Explain and comment on the image: "Une fois... sociétés collectivistes" (I. 16-16).

(iv) What are Giscard's main criticisms of le collectivisme?

(v) What psychological arguments does Giscard use in favour of his ideas in this passage?

And Either

(b) Answer two of the following three questions:

(i) "Les Français d'aujourd'hui ont du mal à comprendre la société dans laquelle ils vivent." What arguments does Giscard use in support of this theory?

(ii) What solution does Giscard propose for what he calls "l'évolution prégnante de notre démographie"?

(iii) Are any of the idéologies classiques capable of solving the problems which face France?

Each answer need not exceed 150 words.

Or

(c) Why, in your view, did Giscard's argument of 1976 fail to impress his electorate in 1981? Your answer need not exceed 300 words.

SUMMER 1984

16 MICHAEL SHAW, Reportage: La France depuis 1939

Créon: Au lendemain d'une révolution rude, il y a du pain sur la planche, je te l'assure. Mais

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Answer part (a) and either (b) or (c)

(a) (i) From what play is this extract taken? Who is the author?

(ii) How is the theme relevant to the France of 1944?

(iii) Explain the meaning of the final sentence of Créon's speech ("Mais pour que... pendant un mois" (I. 10-11)).

(iv) What view of politics are we given in Créon's speech?

(v) "C'est le métier qui le veut," says Créon (I. 13). Comment on his reasoning here.

And Either

(b) Answer two of the following three questions:

(i) How was Saint-Exupéry's work influenced by the events of the period?

(ii) What do the extracts in Reportage tell us of Albert Camus' favourite themes?

(iii) Did all of the writers of the period take heart Sartre's injunction that "on ne peut tirer son espègle du jeu"?

Each answer need not exceed 150 words.

Or

(c) Did the theme of Occupation inspire any significant literature during and after the war years in France?

Your answer need not exceed 300 words.
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UCLES

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EXAMINATION PAPERS (ADVANCED LEVEL)

17 DEPARTEMENT, La France, généralités (Classe de troisième)

La population active agricole représente, au recensement de 1975, 2 millions de personnes.

alpine du Champsaur, 2 exploitations sur 3 sont tenues par des étrangers.

Answer part (a) and either (b) or (c)

(e) (i) Explain the following expressions: “dédommagement” (L. 7); “un ouvrier ou un employé” (L. 16).

(ii) What is meant by “Indemnité Viagère de Départ” (L. 11)?

(iii) What particular problems confront the petit exploitant in France?

(iv) Comment on the various statistics given in this passage.

(v) What problems facing the paysannerie are highlighted here?

And Either

(b) Answer two of the following three questions:

(i) What role do littoral and mere côtiers play in the French economy?

(ii) How important a factor has immigration been in France in recent years?

(iii) How well provided with inland waterways is France, and what use does she make of them?

Each answer need not exceed 150 words.

Or

(c) What factors have helped the French economy, since 1945, to achieve its present prosperity?

Your answer need not exceed 300 words.

SUMMER 1984

FRENCH LISTENING COMPREHENSION 9108/4, 9110/4, 9112/4

(approx. 45 minutes)

ADVANCED LEVEL

Recorded Introduction

These instructions are recorded so that you may get used to the sound of the recording and be quite sure of the procedure.

Do not turn over or make notes until the end of the first reading. This will be indicated by a signal.

This paper will consist of two separate questions. In each case the procedure will be the same.

The passage will be read three times.

After the first reading there will be a pause of about two minutes for you to turn over the question paper and read the questions. You may then make notes at any time.

During the second reading there will be a pause of about five minutes after each of the sections, during which you may write your answers.

After the third reading you will be allowed five minutes to revise your answers. A signal will indicate the end of the test.

Hand in any notes you have made separately from your answer paper.

Will the Supervisor please ensure that all notes and spare paper are collected and destroyed.

The title of the first passage is

“Investigating a suspected crime”

Answer the following questions in English. Your answers should be concise but include all relevant information. They need not be in complete sentences.

Question 1

Investigating a suspected crime

SECTION 1

1 Who was Gonzaga and what was he doing in the hotel? [2]

2 What took place in the lounge of the hotel? [1]

3 Where were the hotel guests to be interviewed? [1]

4 Where were some of the guests to be found, and what were they doing there? [2]

5 At what time of the day had the suspected crime occurred? [1]

6 The guests reacted in various ways when questioned by the police. Mention two of their reactions. [2]
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Section 2

7 How pleasantly or otherwise did Inspector Leroy find his enquiries proceeding?

8 What part of Leroy's enquiries is described as a "contest in eloquence"?

9 What steps did the special correspondents take to obtain information and why?

10 To whom did Gonzaga make a telephone call, and why?

Question 2

Do not turn over or make notes until the end of the first reading.

The procedure will be as for Question 1.

The title of the passage is

"The changing face of France today"

Answer the following questions in English. Your answers should be concise but include all relevant information. They need not be in complete sentences.

Question 2

The changing face of France today

Section 1

1 What change in the nature of French society has the author seen in the last forty years?

2 In what ways does the young French farmer of today differ from his grandfather?

3 What does the author find paradoxical about the wish of many French people to live in the country?

4 What proportion of French people have this wish?

Section 2

5 What signs of an apparent revival of interest in country life in France are quoted by the author?

6 The author refers ironically to a number of activities engaged in by young people who have created their own communities in the country. Mention three of these activities.

7 On what grounds does the author seek to criticise the activities of these young people?

SUMMER 1984

FRENCH

SPECIAL PAPER

(Three hours)

Questions 1 and 2 each carry half of the maximum marks for the paper.

Begin your answer to Question 2 on a fresh sheet of paper.

1 Translate into French:

Although Jason visited me a good deal, I had never been to his lodgings. After his vague invitation

ready until after we've gone home. But it's nice to have them."

NIGEL BALCHIN (adapted)

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2 Read the following passage but do not translate it. Then answer the questions which follow:

En chaque société, les tendances dominantes de l'esprit public se forment à partir d'un modèle

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5

10

15
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(a) Summarise the argument of the passage in about 100 words.

(b) In what ways does the author present his topic? How do you react to this presentation?

(c) What do you understand by the following expressions? Expand on a mere translation where necessary to explain the meaning.

(i) les tendances dominantes de l'esprit public se forment à partir d'un modèle que se donnent les élites (lines 1-2)
(ii) porteurs d'épée (line 3)
(iii) décidés de n'accepter en leur sein aucun individu s'adaptant au commerce (line 4)
(iv) aménagé en service de cette altière bureaucratie (line 6)
(v) ce système hiérarchique et centralisé (line 11)
(vi) Les petites exploitations maintiennent à la terre une main-d'œuvre trop nombreuse (lines 19-20)
(vii) faute de capitaux (line 20)
(viii) les devises envoyées par les émigrés (line 23)
(ix) On importe des consommateurs, on exporte des producteurs. (lines 23-24)
(x) l'on tétone sur le chemin de la dictature à la démocratie (lines 24-25)